

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-07

NSC-07 SPC-03 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /062 R

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ISA:VADM PEET

PM/SAS:DFARNHAM

NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

NEA:DAVIES

T - NEWMAN

S/S - DMILLER

----- 044563

O R 090250Z MAR 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR

USMTM DHAHRAN

INFO JCS

CSA

CNO

CSAF

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047957

SECDEF FOR ISA AND DSAA

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MASS, SA

SUBJECT:MODA REQUEST FOR ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE (RSAF)SURVEY

REF: JIDDA 5658

1. WE AGREE THAT IT HIGHLY DESIRABLE ACCEDE TO SAG REQUEST
FOR RSAF SURVEY AND WE PREPARED TO DO SO. HOWEVER, WE
BELIEVE SAG SHOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO
ACCOMPLISHING RSAF SURVEY WITHIN CONTEXT OF AN OVERALL
SURVEY FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: (A) DESIRABILITY OF
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COORDINATION OF RSAF SURVEY WITH OTHER PROPOSED SURVEYS,

NAMELY MODA REQUEST FOR SIGNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM (TAT) TO CONDUCT DETAILED ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SAUDI ARMY SIGNAL CORPS OPERATIONS AND CHUSMTMS RECOMMENDATION THAT WE PROPOSE TO SAG A PLAN FOR MECHANIZATION AND MODERNIZATION OF SAUDI ARMY;(B) STEADY AND CONTINUING GROWTH IN ARMED FORCES INVENTORY AND IN LOGISTICAL COMPLEXITY OF SAUDI ARMED FORCES OVER PAST FOUR YEARS SINCE LEAHY REPORT, (C) CHRONIC AND INCREASING MANPOWER PROBLEMS, AND (D) PARAMOUNT CONSIDERATION THAT PROPOSED SURVEYS SHOULD NOT BE PERFORMED IN ISOLATION.

2. FOR EMBASSY JIDDA AND USMTM: WE KEENLY AWARE OF SAG'S STRONG INTEREST, AS UNDERScoreD BY EVIDENCE OF KING FAISAL'S PERSONAL CONCERN, IN RSAF SURVEY BEING UNDERTAKEN

ASAP. IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION, NOR DO WE BELIEVE IT NECESSARY, THAT THE UNDERTAKING OF A BROAD SURVEY NEED SIGNIFICANTLY DELAY THE RSAF SURVEY.

3. ACCORDINGLY, AND UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE OBJECTION YOU SHOULD INFORM MODA THAT USG IS PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE RSAF SURVEY WITHOUT DELAY, BUT BELIEVES THAT MODA SHOULD CONSIDER DESIRABILITY OF CARRYING IT OUT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF AN OVERALL SURVEY OF MODA FORCES(ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE) FOR THE REASONS CITED IN PARA 1. (WHILE LONG-RANGE PLAN FOR NAVY ALREADY EXISTS, PROPOSED SURVEY WILL TAKE ITS REQUIREMENTS INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DRAFTING OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS TO MODA.)

4. IF MODA AGREES TO OUR OFFER TO UNDERTAKE AN OVERALL SURVEY, SUGGEST YOU PROPOSE FOLLOWING COURSE OF ACTION TO SAG: THAT USMTM (A) PREPARE PLAN FOR OVERALL SURVEY WHICH RECOMMENDS IN GENERAL TERMS THE MODALITIES FOR CARRYING IT OUT AND WHICH SHALL PROPOSE EMPHASIS, PRIORITIES AND TIMING AS REGARDS THE COMPONENT PARTS OF THE SURVEY; (B) AT SAME TIME, PREPARE A PROPOSAL AS TO MODALITIES OF CARRYING OUT RSAF SURVEY WITHOUT DELAY BUT WITHIN CONTEXT OF OVERALL SURVEY. (DOD VIEWS AS REGARDS TEAM ARE IN PARA 8 BELOW.) BOTH PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED CONFIDENTIAL

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TO WASHINGTON (VIA CINCEUR) WITHIN TWO WEEKS AND, FOLLOWING STATE/DOD APPROVAL, TO SAG.

5. SHOULD MODA ACCEPT OFFER OF OVERALL SURVEY, BUT EXPRESS CONCERN THAT THIS WOULD UNDULY DELAY RSAF SURVEY, YOU AUTHORIZED TO SAY THAT WE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE RSAF SURVEY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING APPROVAL BY USG AND SAG OF SCENARIO FOR OVERALL SURVEY. THIS,

OF COURSE, WOULD BE TO ASSURE THAT THERE BE ADEQUATE COORDINATION AS BETWEEN THE RSAF SURVEY AND THE OVERALL SURVEY.

6. IF, IN RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSAL, MODA DOES NOT WISH TO ACCEPT US OFFER TO UNDERTAKE BROAD SURVEY, YOU AUTHORIZED INFORM MODA THAT DOD PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD WITH RSAF SURVEY IMMEDIATELY, IF MODA UNCERTAIN OR HAS RESERVATIONS YOU MAY SUGGEST DESIRABILITY OF USMTM/MODA TECHNICAL TALKS TO CLARIFY REASONS WHY WE BELIEVE OVERALL SURVEY DESIRABLE.

7. FOR ALL ADDRESSEES. AS REGARDS CARRYING OUT OF RSAF SURVEY ITSELF, WE WOULD APPRECIATE COUNTRY TEAM AND USCINCEUR COMMENTS ON FOLLOWING PROPOSAL:

8. IN CONSIDERING EXPANDED SCOPE OF STUDY AND EXTENSIVE IN-DEPTH EXPERTISE THAT WILL BE REQUIRED TO ADEQUATELY SURVEY ALL FACETS OF RSAF AND DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE 5-10 YEAR MASTER PLAN, USMTM AIR FORCE SECTION MAY NOT BE ABLE TO UNDERTAKE SUCH A TASK WITHOUT UNDULY DISRUPTING IMPORTANT DAY-TO-DAY FUNCTIONS. WHILE AF SECTION COULD BE AUGMENTED WITH NECESSARY PERSONNEL ON TEMPORARY DUTY BASIS, BELIEVE IT PREFERABLE FOR TEAM ASSEMBLED IN CONUS TO GO TO SAUDI ARABIA WHICH WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY AND WORK CLOSELY WITH USMTM AND TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF ALL AVAILABLE IN-COUNTRY EXPERTISE. WE BELIEVE PRINCIPAL ADVANTAGES OF SUCH A PLAN WOULD INCLUDE: (A) AVAILABILITY OF FULL RANGE OF FORCE DEVELOPMENT/PROGRAMMING/PLANNING EXPERTISE; (B) AVAILABILITY OF SENIOR PERSONNEL WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN CONDUCTING IN-COUNTRY SURVEYS SIMILAR TO THAT REQUESTED BY SAG; (C) CURRENT KNOWLEDGE OF OTHER USG
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PROGRAMS, COMMITMENTS, AND POLICY RESTRICTIONS;
(D) CONSIDERATION/INCLUSION OF FULL STATE-OF-THE-ART AND FUTURE TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS; AND (E) TO INSURE CONSISTENCY WITH CURRENT US POLICY AND OBJECTIVES.

9. WE AGREE IN PRINCIPLE WITH USMTM'S PROPOSAL (USMTM 190800Z DEC 73) TO ADVANCE A PLAN FOR MECHANIZATION AND MODERNIZATION AND WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND A SIGNAL TAT AS REQUESTED BY MODA (USMTM 121315Z JAN 74). HOWEVER, FOR THE REASONS STATED WE BELIEVE THESE SURVEYS SHOULD PREFERABLY BE CONDUCTED WITHIN CONTEXT OF BROAD SURVEY FOR SAUDI ARMED FORCES IF SUCH A SURVEY IS ACCEPTABLE TO SAG.

10. ACCORDINGLY, IN YOUR MEETING WITH MODA CONCERNING

RSAF SURVEY YOU SHOULD STATE THAT WE PREPARED OFFER PLAN
FOR MECHANIZATION AND MODERNIZATION OF SAA AND TO SEND
SIGNAL TAT BUT THAT WE BELIEVE MODA SHOULD CONSIDER
DESIRABILITY OF THIS BEING DONE WITHIN CONTEXT OF AN
OVERALL SURVEY.

11. FOR USCINCEUR: IF OVERALL SURVEY IS APPROVED EUCOM
REPRESENTATION ON TEAM WILL BE REQUESTED.
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To: JIDDA
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